

CDL Schools Initial Certification

CDL Drive Schools



Revision History

Effective Date of SOP: 3/17/2025	SOP Number: SOP F.01
Functional Area Name: Drive Schools	Division Name: CDL
Last Review Date: 2/21/2025	Last Reviewer: Amanda Casebier, CDL
	Supervisor
Next Review Date: 2/21/2026	Next Reviewer: CDL Supervisor
Executive Approval Date: 3/17/2025	Approved By: Alyson Sorenson, CDL
	Manager

Overview

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) covers the process of reviewing, vetting, and approving new Commercial Drivers's License (CDL) schools to operate in the state of Oklahoma.

Purpose

This SOP provides step-by-step instructions for CDL Auditors to follow when reviewing new CDL School applicants for certification.

Policy Statement

These procedures apply to instructors at all CDL Drive Schools in Oklahoma except:

- Schools giving driver training lessons without charge
- Schools maintained by employers without charge for their employees only
- Schools or classes conducted by high schools, colleges, universities, vocational schools, or private schools for regularly enrolled, full-time students as a part of the normal program for such institutions.

Compliance

OAC 670:15-33 - Truck Driver Training		

Systems

System	Function
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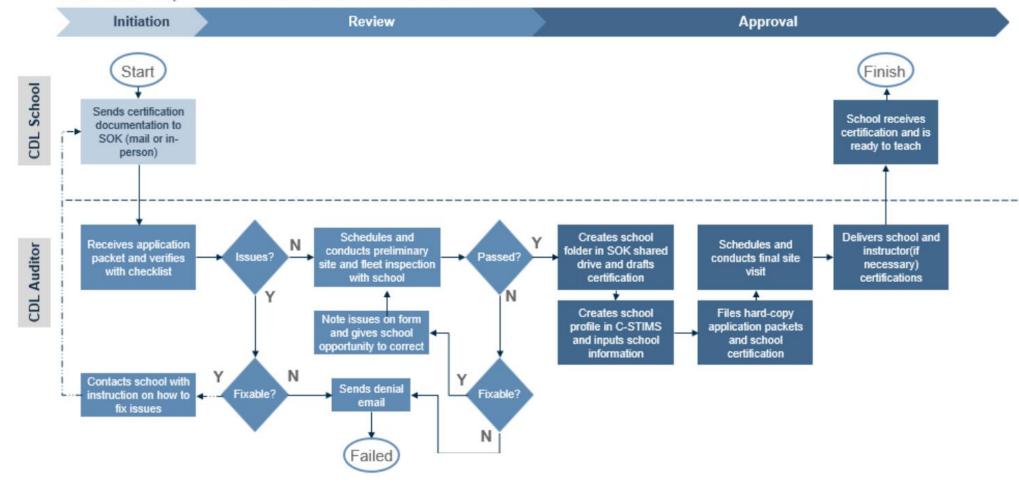


SOK Shared Drive	Internal shared drive used by CDL employees to share files
Commercial Skills Test Information	American Associated of Motor Vehicle
Management System (CSTIMS)	Administrators (AAMVA)-sponsored tool to
	track CDL schools, instructors TPEs, and
	student test results

Roles

Role	Responsibilities
CDL Drive School	State-certified school that offers CDL training
	services for people in Oklahoma
CDL Auditor	CDL team member who carries out most day-
	to-day functions related to CDL School,
	Instructors, and TPEs, including certification,
	renewal, and auditing.
CDL Supervisor	CDL team supervisor who is available to
	assist with CDL auditor functions as needed
	and may be called on to answer questions,
	settle disputes, or handle non-compliance
	escalation.

Process Map - CDL School Initial Certification





Procedures

Process #1: Certifying a New CDL Drive School

Purpose: To review, vet, and approve new CDL Drive Schools to operate in the state of Oklahoma

Background:

All CDL schools in Oklahoma must have at least one certified instructor. When a school applies for certification in Oklahoma, they must be taking at least one instructor through this instructor certification process— even a previously certified instructor will need to be re-certified under a new school or new location of an existing school. That means the steps in this SOP are often happening concurrently with a new CDL School Instructor certification, and correspondences between school and SOK (mailing applications, returning certificates) may include both school and instructor documentation.

Process Step-by-Step:

1. First, a prospective CDL Drive School will send an application and all required documentation to SOK Oklahoma

Note: Required documentation is listed on the application

Note: CDL Drive Schools are supposed to fill out applications and be certified before starting instruction. However, if a CDL Auditor becomes aware of a school operating without a certification, they should immediately contact the school with an application and instructions of how to complete the certification process.

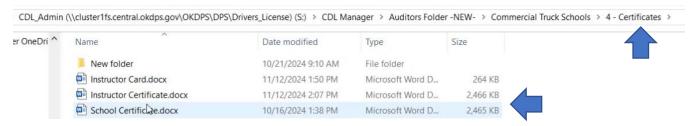
- Service Oklahoma will receive the school's application packet and forward it to the CDL department. A CDL Auditor will review the application and attached items against the checklist and determine the school's eligibility based on the strength and completeness of their submitted documentation.
 - a. If the school's application has correctable issues, such as missing curriculum information, the Auditor will contact the school to resolve the issue. The school's application will remain open as long as they are making an honest attempt to meet standards.
 - b. If some aspect of the school's application is clearly insufficient, such as an inability to provide an acceptable insurance policy, the school's application may be denied. If an application is denied, the CDL Auditor will reach out to the school via email and, if appropriate, explain the reason for denial.
 - c. If the school's application is complete on the first attempt, the CDL Auditor will reach out to the school to schedule a preliminary site and fleet inspection.
- 3. The CDL Auditor will conduct a site visit to inspect the school's facility, fleet, and all other items on the New Commercial Truck School Pre-Inspection Form. They will record fleet information in a document as well (See Appendix B).
 - a. If there are any issues found with the site, fleet, or school owner's understanding of their responsibilities, the CDL Auditor may outline these concerns with the school and give them an opportunity to correct.



- b. If the school is clearly unable to meet standards (for example, an entirely unsuitable proposed facility), their application may be denied. If an application is denied, the CDL Auditor will reach out to the school via email and explain the reason for denial.
- c. If the school's facility, fleet, and other checklist items are sufficient, the CDL Auditor will inform the school of their provisional acceptance.
- 4. After returning to SOK, the CDL Auditor will send the school an email letting them know in writing that they have passed inspection.
- 5. The CDL Auditor will reach out to schedule a final inspection of the new school.

Note: This final inspection is mostly a formality, but it gives the school the opportunity to correct any minor issues identified in the preliminary inspection and allows the CDL Auditor to deliver school certificates and other paperwork in-person to "officially" open the school for business.

- 6. Next, the CDL Auditor will create a file for the new school in the CDL Admin Folder (See Process #2) and add all application documents.
- 7. The CDL Auditor will draft a School Certificate for the new school using the template in the "4-Certificates" folder (See Appendix A). This certificate can be printed and mailed to the school, or hand-delivered if CDL Auditor happens to be going to the school for a final inspection or audit.



Note: If new instructors are also being certified along with a school, create instructor certifications and mail with school certifications (See "F.05 – CDL School Instructor Initial Certification" SOP).

Note: At this point, the CDL Auditor should also file paper copies of CDL School documents in a dedicated file. These paper files must be kept for three years.

- 8. Then, the CDL Auditor will create a profile for the school in CSTIMS and add school information (See Process #3)
- 9. The CDL Auditor will conduct a final site inspection as described above. CDL Auditors will fill out a Final Inspection Form during this visit.
- 10. Once the CDL School has received their certification by mail or in-person, they are ready to begin teaching.

Process #2: Creating a School Folder in the CDL Admin Shared Drive

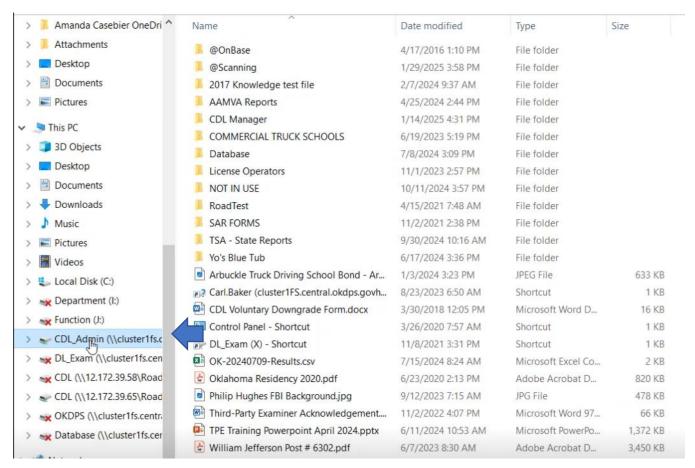
Purpose: To create a shared folder in the CDL Admin Drive to track CDL School records **Background:**



To comply with Oklahoma Administrative Code, school records must always be available at SOK headquarters. To remedy the fact that paperwork is often kept at SOK satellite offices, all documents are scanned and stored in shared folders, so they are accessible from SOK headquarters.

Additionally, all paper documents are to be kept on file for three years in accordance with Oklahoma Administrative Code.

Process Step-by-Step:



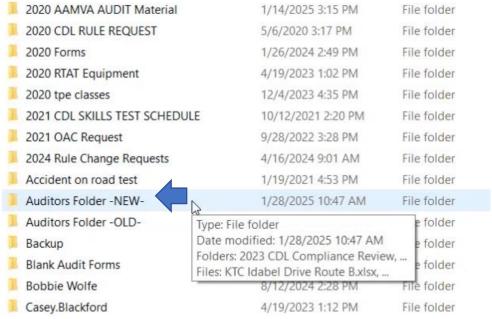
1. Select the CDL Admin drive



2. Select the CDL Manager folder

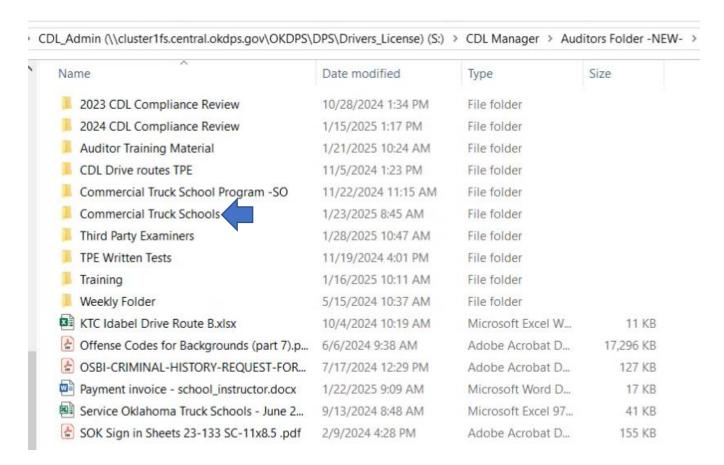
Name	Date modified	Type	Size
@OnBase	4/17/2016 1:10 PM	File folder	
@Scanning	1/29/2025 3:58 PM	File folder	
2017 Knowledge test file	2/7/2024 9:37 AM	File folder	
AAMVA Reports	4/25/2024 2:44 PM	File folder	
DL Manager	1/14/2025 4:31 PM	File folder	
Database Date modified: 1/14/20 License Or Folders: 2020 AAMVA A Files: 2Sherrie.docx, 30 I	UDIT Material, 2020 CDL RULE RE	der der QUEST, der	
NOT IN USE	10/11/2024 3:37 PM	File folder	
RoadTest	4/15/2021 7:48 AM	File folder	
SAR FORMS	11/2/2021 2:38 PM	File folder	
TSA - State Reports	9/30/2024 10:16 AM	File folder	
Yo's Blue Tub	6/17/2024 3:36 PM	File folder	

3. Select Auditor Folders -New-

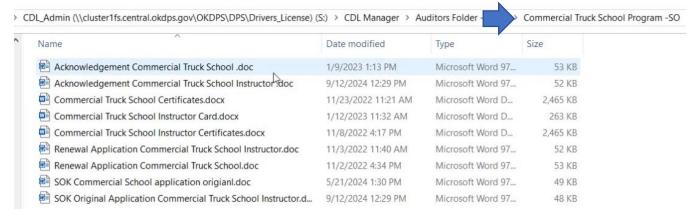


4. Select Commercial Truck Schools



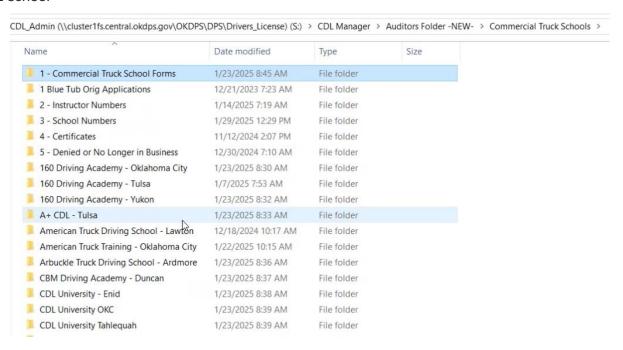


Note: New forms updated with the SOK letterhead can be found in the **Commercial Truck School Program – SO** folder.



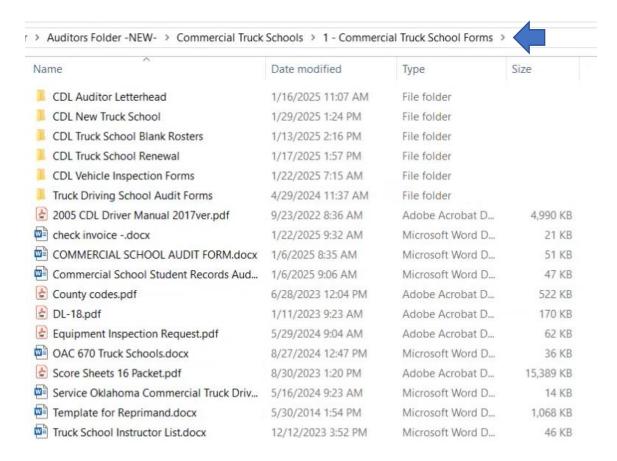


5. From the **Commercial Truck School** folder, create a new folder with the name of the newly certified CDL school

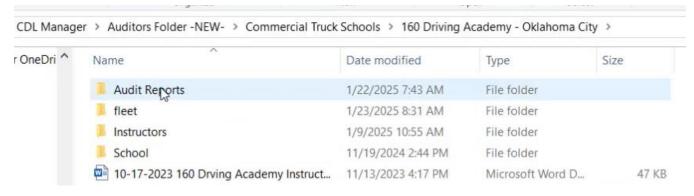


Note: Other, older CDL School forms that are still relevant are stored in the **1-Commercial Truck School Forms** folder.





Example: Structure of CDL school folder. All forms, audit reports, school and fleet information, etc., for a school are to be kept here.



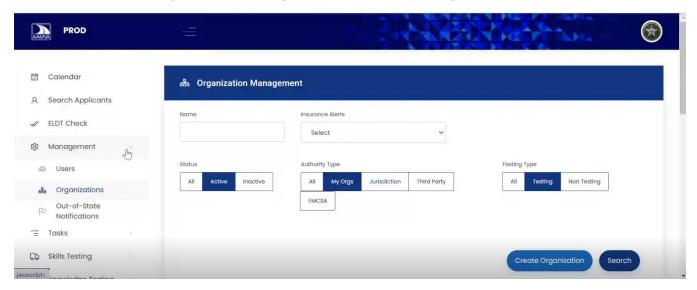


Process #3: Creating a School Profile in CSTIMS

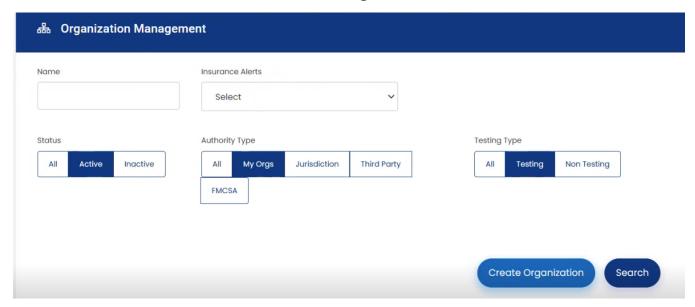
Purpose: To create a profile for a new CDL School in CSTIMS to track school information, instructors, fleet, etc.

Process Step-by-Step:

1. In CSTIMS, navigate to the **Management** tab and select **Organizations.**

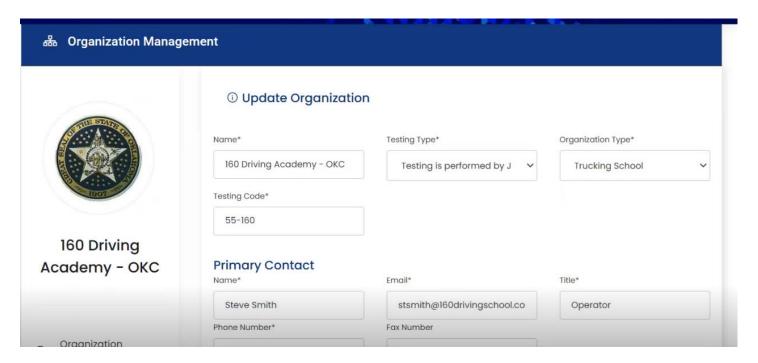


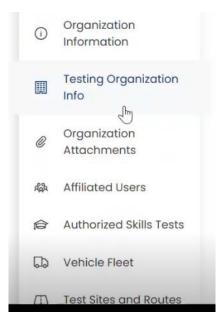
2. Fill out school information and click Create Organization



Example: Organization homepage and menu in CSTIMS



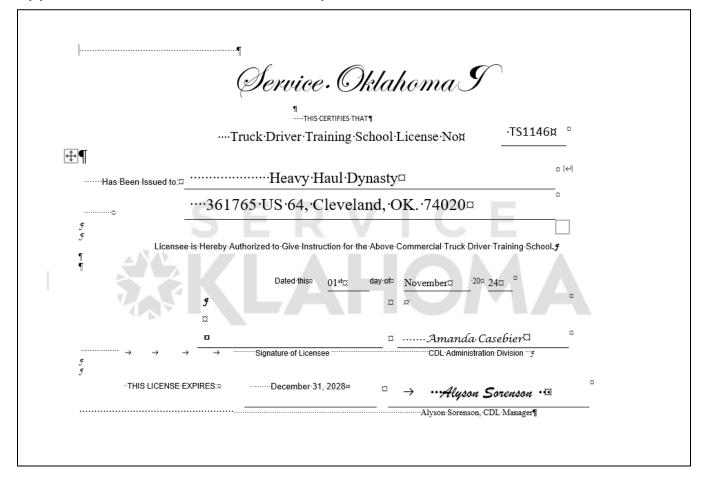






Appendix

Appendix A: School Certificate Example





Appendix B: Fleet Inspection Document Example

→ Passenger-steer-tire-large-chunks¶

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American·Truck·Training·Fleet·Inspection·¶
July-16,-2024¶
Location:-ATT-yard,-OKC¶
Auditors: Amanda · Casebier, · Yolanda · Morris¶
Truck-#-1414---Tag:-47C773-exp:-3/25---VIN:4508¶
Trailer-#-2406------Tag:BQ7184-----VIN:1376¶

    → Right-Rear-tractor-tire-not-at-least-2/32.¶

    → Test-route-in-truck, truck-not-secured.¶

    → AB·test-first-attempt-lost-20+-pounds-without-foot-then-an-additional-7-8-pounds-with-foot-

        applied-1-minute.-Second-attempt-air-held-steady.-¶
Truck-#-1407---Tag:-476747-exp:-12/24---VIN:8458¶
Trailer:#-----VIN:1385¶

    → Broken·step,·passenger·side¶

    → Right-rear-tractor-tire-x2-not-at-least-2/32¶

    → Back-seat-has-broken-seat-belts.¶

    → AB-test-resulted-in-air-leak-with-10-15-pound-pressure-drop-in-1-min.¶

Truck-#-1409---Tag:-47C741-exp:-4/25---VIN:7624¶
Trailer-#-----Tag:6499LA-----VIN:3760¶

    → Driver-steer-tire-large-chunks-and-not-4/32¶

    → Left-front-trailer-tire-not-2/32¶

    → Right-rear-trailer-tire-with-huge-chunks¶

    → Passenger-steer-tire-large-chunks-and-below-4/32¶

    → Private-trailer-tag-with-commercial-tractor-tag¶

Truck-#-1406---Tag:-47C746-exp:-12/24---VIN:6943¶
Trailer-#-4839----Tag:7405P2-----VIN:1964¶

    → No·mudflap-Left-side-trailer¶

    → Private-trailer-tag-with-commercial-tractor-tag¶

Truck-#-1411---Tag:-NE-APP-W31378-exp:-2025----VIN:4713¶
Trailer-#-----Tag:2569KE-----VIN:5597¶

    → Driver-steer-tire-large-chunks¶

    → Need-lease-agreement-(warner)¶

    → Left-rear-trailer-tire-separation¶

    → Paper-registration-in-truck-stated-trailer-should-have-tag-7401P2-(private-trailer), need-

        commercial-non-expiring.¶
```



References

- 1. List of links relevant to CDL Schools
 - a. Oklahoma Administrative Code
 - b. CSTIMS
- 2. List of forms relevant to CDL Schools
 - a. Original School Application.doc
 - b. New School Checklist.docx
 - c. New Commercial Truck School Pre-Inspjection Form (1) 2023.docx
 - d. New Commercial Truck School Final Inspection Form (1) 2023 (004).docx
 - e. OAC 670 Truck Schools.docx
 - f. School Information.docx
 - g. Acknowledgement Commercial Truck School .doc
 - h. American Truck Training Fleet Inspection. July 16 2024.docx
 - i. School Certificate.docx